

learned that legislators are people. They have pictures of their families on their desks, and they even drink coffee. They are no different from the rest of us except they have decided to make a career out of using their voices to build our democracy, to add more pieces to the puzzle in hope of solving our nation's problems.

But certainly one does not have to hold public office to have a voice in our government. Rosa Parks provided the impetus for the Civil Rights movement by simply refusing to give up her seat on the bus. She did not even have to open her mouth to have her voice heard throughout the nation.

My voice will not be the missing piece of the puzzle or the chord absent in the symphony. I may speak loudly and run for public office. Or I may speak softly by writing to my representative to tell him my opinions on an issue. But regardless of how I speak, my voice will always be audible. It must be, in order for me to be a fully participating member of our democracy. It is my duty to those who have sacrificed and those who continue to work for freedom throughout the world to exercise my right to participate in our government.

I realize that using my voice is critical to the continuation of democracy. Our government consists of millions of voices. Those of politicians and those of voters, but all of which are American voices. Exercising our voices through voting is our privilege, right, and duty as American citizens. In order to truly have a government of, by, and for the people, we must all work to build it. We must all contribute our piece of the puzzle, our voice, to our democracy. When I cast my vote a year from now, I will be doing far more than choosing one candidate from the ballot. I will be contributing my voice to the extensive puzzle which depicts the tapestry of our government. And I will be raising my voice, in harmony, to contribute to that symphony we call democracy.

A TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY BELSKI

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 1998

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated and devoted friend of Southwest Michigan, Mr. Anthony Belski. This month he is retiring after thirty-six years of service to St. Joseph Public Schools. For twenty-nine of those years, Mr. Belski presided over Lincoln Elementary School as its principal.

During his tenure, Mr. Belski has seen a lot of change but through it all, one thing remains the same—his enduring dedication to the kids. Principals are in a unique position to touch so many lives and to help mold so many futures. As an educator, Mr. Belski is in a unique position to have his hard work live on in each of his students—clearly southwest Michigan is a better place thanks to his efforts.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Mr. Anthony Belski for all of his work and wishing him a long, productive, and happy retirement.

TRIBUTE TO FRAN PAVLEY

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 1998

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Fran Pavley, for her leadership and efforts to improve the quality of life in our community. Fran is a determined, hard working individual who is a shining example of a model citizen, and has been rightly named as the recipient of the Citizen of the Year Award by the Las Virgenes Homeowners Association.

Fran's unwavering dedication to the Agoura Hills community spans back to the incorporation of the city in 1982. Serving as one of the first members of a budding, tightly-knit community, Fran has served continuously on the Agoura Hills City Council since it was created, the same year as the incorporation of the city. In addition, she was elected and served as the City's first mayor. Currently, in her fourth term as mayor, Fran continues to consider legislative, environmental and planning issues as top priorities.

One past achievement that has highlighted a bright career was Fran's authoring the "Transit Needs Study," which led to the creation of such programs as regional Dial-A-Ride and the Beach Bus. Currently, Fran is involved in planning and constructing a community center to serve the citizens of Agoura Hills and Calabasas. In recognition of these and other projects, she recently received the "Distinguished Leadership Award" by the American Planning Association.

In addition to Fran's participation in politics at a local level, she currently serves on the California Coast Commission, which plays a critical part in regulating land-use issues along California's 1100 miles of coastline. In 1996, the council member served as President of the Los Angeles County Division of the League of California Cities. Currently, she represents eighty-seven cities in the Los Angeles County of Statewide Board of Directors for the League of California Cities. Fran has also served on the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee, representing Agoura Hills and Westlake.

Growing up in Southern California and completing a Master's Degree in Environmental Planning, Fran has voluntarily offered her personal abilities to enhance and augment our community.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in paying tribute to Fran Pavley. She has shown an unwavering commitment to the community and deserves our recognition and praise.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 1998

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for rollcall vote 208 (the Neumann amendment in the nature of a substitute or the so-called Conservative Action Team "CATs" budget) and rollcall vote 210 (the Republican budget resolution or the Kasich budget) last week, I would have voted in favor of these

measures. On the Spratt substitute, rollcall vote 209, I would have voted "no." I regret that I was unable to be in Washington, D.C., when the House cast these important budget votes.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JAMES L. DANDERAND

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 1998

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with the greatest pleasure that I pay tribute to an exceptionally dedicated and benevolent member of Indiana's First Congressional District, Mr. James L. Danderand, of Dyer, Indiana. After thirty-nine years of continuous service with the institution, Jim retired on March 3, 1998 as Chairman of the Board and President of the Merrillville Branch of Bank One.

Jim graduated from the University of Illinois with a Bachelor of Arts degree. After graduating, he served his country as a Second Lieutenant of Infantry in the United States Army. Beginning his employment with the bank in February of 1959 as a Management Trainee, Jim started his extraordinary rise through his office's employment ranks. Jim was quickly promoted to President on July 18, 1969 and Chairman of the Board on March 14, 1985. Though employed and serving the community through various civic organizations, Jim continued his education through enrollment and completion of American Institute of Banking courses in Chicago, the Harvard Business School's Senior Bank Officers Seminar, Indiana University's Management Course. In addition, he graduated from the University of Wisconsin's Graduate School of Banking.

Jim's remarkable climb up the corporate ladder was accompanied by an ever-increasing group of civic, religious, and philanthropic organizations in which he participated. Jim served in a leadership role as Director of the Lake Area United Way, Director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Northwest Indiana, Honorary Director of the American Red Cross, Lake County, Indiana Chapter, Director and Chairman of the Northwest Indiana Forum, Director of the Northwest Indiana Local Initiatives Support Corporation, Director of the Hospice of the Calumet Area, Inc., and Director of the Gary Educational Development Foundation, Inc. He also gave his time to the Lay Advisory Board for Catholic Charities, Diocese of Gary, Indiana University Northwest Chancellor's Associate, Purdue University Calumet Chancellor's Associate, Robert Morris and Associates, and the University Club.

While serving the community has always been an extremely important part of Jim's life, there can be no comparison to the dedication Jim has for his family. Jim and his loving wife, Prudy, have four wonderful, grown children, Lisa, Jeff, Jill, and John. Their seven grandchildren are an eternal source of joy and love for Jim and Prudy. Now that he is retired, Jim plans to visit and spend much of his time with his family. Jim's future plans include extensive traveling with his wife, many rounds of golf, and visiting his children and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Jim Danderand for his lifetime of service, success, and dedication to Indiana's First Congressional District. Jim serves as an excellent